GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1394
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2008
NSSO REPORT ON WAGE PARITY
Annayyagari Shri Sai Prathap

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a study report by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) titled `Employment and Unemployment Situations in India` has revealed that in rural areas a woman`s daily wage is less than that of a man, though both work equal hours; and

(b) if so, the outcome thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. This disparity in wages could be attributed to existing social norms andpractices as well as inadequate accounting of the overall work output of women in rural areas.However, for the payment of equal wages to women, Government is implementing the EqualRemuneration Act, 1976 which provides for payment of equal remuneration to men and womenfor the same work or work of a similar nature without any discrimination. This Act is beingimplemented by the State Governments for the areas under their jurisdiction and monitored bythe Central Government. For the areas under the Central Governments, the Act is beingimplemented by the office of the Chief Labour Commissioner (Central).